

Agricultural Miscellany

The uses of horses in war are as various as in the arts of peace, and it is not only a numerous

ferred for many of the services of the campaign and battle-field, for though possessed of no great-

more extraordinary demands upon their strength and endurance, and they are found to be, under the present treatment of the battle, inclined to a docility which is surprising. For weight, of baggage wagons and ammunition, as well as of ordnance, size, constitution and endurance are demanded. In this country we have few horses whose log awkwardness would unfit them for this service, but in Europe the great beasts which are often used for heavy teaming, and are beyond expression awkward and ungainly, are rejected as unfit for such service in the army. An infusion of English thorough-bred blood with this gives to Europe a class of heavy horses for the road which are growing greatly in favor. They have the ap-

For flying artillery, and heavy cavalry, horses of a finer organization, yet scarcely less power, are demanded—greater activity, more spirit, and great endurance. We hardly know what heavy cavalry is in this country; one must see the cuirassiers of European armies. They are men of large frames, each wearing a cuirass and helmet, which the force of the ball will not penetrate (though the force of the ball which we use is not so enormous), the horse also protected by a breast-plate, and scale armor often, of great thickness; they are armed with a sword of the heaviest character, and pistols. The weight of horse and man, if we

Horses used in this service are usually stallions of fifteen and a half to sixteen hands, broad-chested, short-necked, with small heads, rather short but large barrels, and moderately large legs. They are usually of a bay color, and are intended to move with the utmost irresistible power in the charge, on occasions where weight will tell better than impetuosity.

For light cavalry a class of horses is adapted which are represented by our fifteen to fifteen and a half hand carriage horses, between the proper hackney and the light draught horses or farmer's horse of all work. This is a most important class and one largely represented on our New England farms, by well-cared-for young horses of good size, which have not been over-worked and stiffened up or strained out of shape, as too many

staff are such as will bear unlimited crowding and work in bad ground; horses of the highest endurance, muscle and spirit. The English hunter is well adapted to this service, especially if all the entire horse be obtained, and such are sought for in the British army. We find among our stallions of all work, especially such as have a large infusion of thorough-bred blood, horses of a very similar character, but too often lacking endurance.—*Homestead.*

Renewing Grass.

The turning over of grass lands, and renewing them has been long practiced in some parts of the country. A better way, as a general rule, unquestionably is, to sow a crop or two, thereof

grass with some other crop in the regular way. Excesses, however, exist. You may have a meadow, most of which is too wet to plow, or there may be portions of a permanent pasture which are too good to give as much feed as you know, from the quality of the land, they ought, which, nevertheless, you do not care to fence in and use for anything but an ordinary course. Most farmers have land, more or less, which they intend never to plow for the purpose of growing crops. With regard to such lands, whether for mowing or for pasturing, it is an excellent plan, if they are not too stony and broken to plow them up in August, and after a few days exposure roll them down with a heavy roller, to crush in the stones and leave a smooth surface; and then in a moist sown sowing

the bush harrow, the grass seeds are not so much as they are in the case of the brush harrow. Few seeds are actually covered, and most of the grass seeds fall on the surface, and, if covered more than one inch deep, they will not bear to be covered half that depth. Many of the smaller will perish in a quarter of an inch deep. For economising the seed, therefore, the surface should first be made smooth, and a very shallow covering given. It is a rule way of sowing the smaller grass seeds, sowing the larger ones in the furrows, and then covering with a harrow, will probably not one seed in fifty ever sends up a shoot. The American Agricultural Experiment Station, following an accidental experiment in the way of turning over old turf, or rather of turning it twice over, and leaving it the same side up as at first, found the experiment would hardly be a good one to imitate, and yet it throws some light on the subject.

"An old agriculturist gives in the *Mark Lane Express* (England), the following accidental experiment in grass culture. In laying down land to permanent grass the farmer found that the grass grew invariably the best; and that afterwards the coarse grass choked out the finer sort. Many years ago his hired man mistook order and accidentally plowed nearly half an acre in the wrong field. This was in the fall, and the land remained with the roots of the grasses thoroughly exposed to the atmosphere throughout the winter. In the spring it was carefully turned back and rolled. By this means the quality and quantity of the grass were so greatly improved that the exact line where the plow had gone might be easily seen for years afterward."—N. Y.

Indian Corn.

catalogue of soil which are properly included in the best corn lands. The smaller varieties are the earliest, and, invariably, the least profitable. In preparing the land for Indian Corn, too much pains cannot be taken to pulverize and render fine and light nor will a little extra labor expended in thoroughly incorporating the broadcast manure with the soil, be thrown away. The more effectually this is accomplished, the greater will be the chances of success with the crop. If the land is level, or not very much broken by the hills or inequalities of the "iron" should run "both ways" and, longitudinally and traversely of the ways, to facilitate the labor of hoeing. A piece of corn planted in accordance with this rule, can be cultivated at much less expense than where the "iron" or "drill" run but one way, as it enables

Colloction for Grafting.
They are practicing a process in France which trees can be grafted at any season of year, when mature buds can be obtained, where the sap is in a flowing state or not. They move a small piece of bark and wood, leaving perfectly smooth surface, to which a similar piece containing the bud intended to form the future tree, is fitted. This is immediately sealed with colloction, which forms a strong, impervious cuticle, insuring a perfect union of parts and free circulation of sap, on approach of warm weather.—*Working Farmer.*

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, May 9, 1861.

An Eventful Month.

Measured by the mere lapse of time but little more than twenty days have passed away since the first gun was fired upon Fort Sumter; but measured by events and by all those things that make the material of history, every one of those days represents years in ordinary times.

This short period has been the seed time of history; and in a single hour has been done which the prestige and results reach far ahead in the centuries to come. What the result is to be, and what the quality of the harvest to be gathered, no man can tell; but there can be little doubt that it will be an abundant one either for good or ill.

Within that short period at the call of the President, more than a hundred and fifty thousand men have rushed to arms, and already have large armies been formed and organized, which are now in readiness for war. They have been organized, armed, equipped and provisioned as if by magic, and thousands of them are now in active service hundreds of miles from home, when Fort Sumter was taken, were engaged in their ordinary peaceful avocations.

The naval force, too, has been greatly increased and strengthened within the same short time. All these preparations, vast as they are, but the spontaneous offerings of the people, and in fact but a tithe of what have been offered and tendered. They are no forced levies or contributions, but are freely given as a grateful offering for the support of that government whose munificent blessings we have so long enjoyed, and only as an earnest of our determination to uphold and maintain it. The next month, like the past, will mark an epoch in our affairs. Unless we utterly misread the signs of the times, we are upon the eve of great events.

IMPROVEMENTS IN WINTHROP. Brother Pike of the Age, not long ago, found time to run away from his sanctum for half a day and take a ten mile cruise to the good old town of Winthrop, where, to his surprise, he found lots of friends and excited signs not only of industrial life, but of thrift, even, in these troublous times. He actually hints that the town is getting "thrillous," from the fact of an honest man being a resident there. Brother P. should show his jolly face often in the "Rural Districts." It would do him good, and make this genial sunshine of his soul, if possible, still warmer.

As he remarked, there are few of our villages in this country that have changed their complexion and old fashioned dignified appearance so much for the better as has Winthrop. In addition to the improvements mentioned by the Editor of the Age, as being made under the superintendence of Mr. John B. Shaw of this city, if he should visit there again he would find a very great change in the Old Bishop Store, in the corner, which for so many years has been a sort of ancient landmark and the location of the village Post Office. It is now occupied by Noah Corrier, Esq., who has employed Mr. S. J. Chase of Boston to remodel it from its ancient form into one more conformable to the taste and progress of the times. Mr. Chase has performed his task admirably and proved himself an experienced and skillful artist in this class of architectural science. We commend his services to those who wish to remodel old tenements or build new ones.

The company of Winthrop volunteers will make a very fine one. They organized last week by electing Newell Strout, Captain; B. S. Kelly, 1st Lieutenant; Wm. Elder, 2d Lieutenant, and they are rendezvoused in the Town Hall, where they await orders.

MORE TROOPS CALLED FOR. The Proclamation of the President of last week calls into service over eighty thousand additional men. Of these upwards of forty thousand are for three years, unless sooner discharged, twenty thousand for five years, and eighteen thousand seamen for a shorter term. This act shows the determination of the administration to carry on the war with vigor, and to press it to a victorious termination as soon as possible. We think this policy meets with great favor among all classes, and especially among the more reflecting portion of the community. It is unquestionably the true method of dealing with this rebellion that now threatens the existence of the government. Any hesitation, any wavering on the part of the government, only gives the rebels new courage and strengthens them in the doubtful States. We think it is not the true policy of the government to avoid any difficulties they may tender; but on the contrary meet them at once, and repel force by force wherever they may be found, and to follow it up till they call for quarter. Let them feel that there is a power in the government of the people that cannot and shall not be trifled with by plunders and traitors.

PORTLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. An exhibition of rare and choice flowers was given by this society on Wednesday last at Mussey's Hall. The military excitement in the city prevented a full attendance, but the exhibition, as we learn from the Advertiser, was the finest ever had under the auspices of the society. The principal contributions were from the conservators of Capt. J. B. Coyle, Hon. J. M. Wood, Hon. J. B. Brown, Hon. J. S. Little, Albert Dervanger, Mr. Benjamin Steele, Master George Owen, and others furnished elegant bouquets. Strawberries in pots from the grounds of T. C. Hersey, Esq., were noticeable for their thrifty growth and profusion of fruit.

THE MAINE CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST Episcopal Church was held in South Paris last week, commencing Wednesday, May 1st, and adjourning on the Monday following. Bishop Scott presided. The session was opened with religious services, and administration of the Lord's Supper by the Bishop, assisted by the Presiding Elders, Com. Robinson and Nickerson. About sixty members were present. An exhibit of the schools and literary institutions of the Conference indicated a prosperous condition. An educational meeting was held on Thursday afternoon. The services were interesting. Addresses were made by Rev. A. J. Church, of Augusta, Hon. J. J. Perry, Rev. Mr. Smith of the New Hampshire Conference, and Dr. Ridgeway of Portland. The next Conference will be held in Portland.

DEATH FROM DYPHTERIA. A correspondent in Palmyra, sends us the following record of mortality from this terrible scourge.

"Died in Palmyra on the 25th of March last, Mary P. on the 30th of March, Helen M. on the 3d of April, Sarah M. on the 13th of April, Henry J. and on the 14th of April Charles E. died the respective ages were 10, 18, 10, 8 and 14 years. All children of Rodney B. and Ann Johnson of this town. All died of the recent epidemic known as Diphtheria, a degree of mortality is believed rarely to be wholly unprecedented in any single family in this region. In view then of the wholesale fatality of the disease in that family and other disastrous results from similar management elsewhere, we feel that we have a right to inquire in the name of suffering humanity, whether the result of such treatment ought to enhance its value or invite its repetition."

EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH AMERICA. The steamer Northern Light, from Aspinwall, April 25th, brings intelligence of the destruction of the city of Mendoza on the 20th of March last, by an earthquake, and the loss of 8000 lives.

The San Juan is also reported to have been destroyed and the bed of the river turned upon it by the same earthquake. Two other towns are also reported to have been destroyed.

Military Organization in Maine.

Orders have been issued for the first four regiments of Maine volunteers to rendezvous as follows: The First, composed of companies in the Third Division, now awaiting orders in the General Government to march, at Portland; the Second, composed of ten companies raised in the First Division, at Bangor; the Third, from the Kennebec valley, composed of companies in the Second Division, at Augusta; the Fourth, from the same Division, at Rockland; the Fifth, composed of companies in the Third Division, at Portland.

The companies to constitute the Third Regiment have not as yet been designated. It is expected, however, that it will consist of the two companies from Augusta, one from Gardiner, one from Hallowell, one from Waterville, one from Winthrop, one from Skowhegan, two from Bath.

The Regiment will encamp upon the State Grounds in this city, probably by Thursday of next week. The day in ordering the encampment of this regiment is to enable the Department to procure suitable camp equipage.

The formation of sixty companies have been reported to head quarters, fifty-eight of which have been organized by the choice of officers. The following list of companies reported in the several Divisions, with their officers, has been positively furnished us by the Adjutant General's office:

Table with 3 columns: Division, Company, and Officers. Includes companies from Portland, Bangor, and other locations.

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Meeting of the City Council.

AGUSTA, April 27, 1861. Present the Mayor, Aldermen, Fogg, Fuller, Pettigill and Percival, and a quorum in the Common Council.

Bonds of L. B. Leighton, and Wm. Stevens, Pound-keeper and of Levi Hicks, City Constable, were approved.

Second Monthly Report of the City Marshal was allowed.

Bill of J. H. Fletcher for additional services as night-watch—allowed.

Roll of Accounts, No. 1, amounting to \$412.29 was allowed and payment ordered.

Committee on Finance reported an appropriation bill of \$29,000 to meet the necessary expenses of the City for the current municipal year—Report accepted.

Ordered, That the sum of \$29,000 be assessed and apportioned as follows, viz: State tax, \$3,856 55; County tax, \$3,282 37; \$7,238 92

Repair of Highways, \$4,200 00; Snow Bills, \$800 00; Support of Poor, \$3,000 00; Schools, \$5,000 00; City Officers, \$2,000 00; Fire Department, \$900 00; Police, \$500 00; Printing, \$150 00; River notes & interest on same, \$1,500 00; Interest on loan, \$800 00; Abatement, \$2,000 00; Discount on taxes, \$411 08; Contingent, \$21,761 08

Total Amount, \$29,000 00

Petition of Henry Sawyer and others for sidewalk on Middle street was referred to Committee on Highways.

The resolution passed by the City Council, April 24th, 1861, to facilitate and encourage the enlistment of citizens of Augusta, was re-considered and amended to make it conform to an act of the Legislature approved April 25th, 1861, and as amended passed.

Report of the Committee on Highways that the road crossing the ravine on Washington street is unsafe for travel, and recommending the same to be rebuilt in a permanent manner, with a culvert four feet high, three feet wide and at least twenty-nine feet long, was accepted.

Petition of James M. Rogers for additional compensation for raising a portion of the Brook road near Judge Rice's mill, was presented and leave was granted the petitioner to withdraw his petition.

Ordered, That Charles Milliken be allowed to erect a post in front of lot occupied by him under direction of the Mayor.

Ordered, That Street Commissioner for the Western District, and the Chairman of the Committee on Highways, be directed to contract with some one to rebuild the culvert on Washington street and repair the road.

Ordered, That the Committee on Burying Grounds lease the land in River Side Cemetery suitable for cultivation, and dispose of the grass and fruit that may grow therein, and also contract for the building of the fence on the easterly line of the cemetery.

Ordered, That the Committee on Bells and Clocks contract with some person to ring one of the bells and take care of the City Clock, provided the same can be done for \$100, including the use of the bell.

THE WOMEN AT WORK. The ladies of this city have been industriously engaged during the past week in manufacturing work-lags for the soldiers of the two companies in this city. The bags are made of calico, double, with convenient compartments for each article, and will each contain a pair of round-pointed scissors, thimble, linen and cotton thread, yarn, suspenders and shirt buttons, pin-cushion and pins, needle-case and needles of different sizes, was, tape, handkerchiefs and sticking paper. Each volunteer will have his name written upon the bag presented to him, which will serve the double purpose of identifying the body of the owner should he fall in battle, and to prevent any conflicting claims of ownership which might arise among the men. The volunteers are also to be presented each, with pocket handkerchiefs of good size and quality.

In addition to the above benevolent and patriotic work, a large number of the ladies of the city are daily employed at the State House in the manufacture of clothing for the troops. There is ample room and opportunity for any number more, who may be moved to ply their needles in the service of the State, to volunteer for the work. Those who are unable to attend at the State House will be furnished with work at their homes if they desire it. We know of one family, (some of whose members are resident in secessionism, and whose welfare much anxiety is felt,) in which four gentlemen and workers are earnestly and actively employed upon the soldier's garments—fourteen in number ranging from eight to eighteen years. Neither age, sex, or condition is exempt from the noble and patriotic impulses of the present hour.

COMMISSARY OF THE THIRD REGIMENT. The office of Commissary and Quarter-master of the third Regiment, which is to rendezvous in this city, has been tendered by the Governor and Council, to Thos. S. Lang, Esq., of North Vassalboro. We are sorry that he has felt compelled by the obligations of his business to decline the appointment. He has the management of the business of the extensive manufacturing establishment at North Vassalboro, and the Company do not feel willing to release him from their service. The refusal of the corporation to grant Mr. Lang a temporary leave of absence to enable him to do his country's service, we are inclined to think does more credit to their worldly wisdom than to their patriotism. The difficulty of finding the right man for the right place in a crisis like the present, increases the regret that the practical business energy and resources of our friend Lang cannot be called into requisition by the government.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. The committee appointed to raise by subscription a sum sufficient to supply the volunteers from this city with articles of necessity and comfort not furnished them by the State, have met with a generous response among our people. With few exceptions, (we are sorry to say there have been exceptions even among those best able to contribute,) a noble disposition has manifested itself among all classes to do something for the brave and patriotic men who go forth in a perilous emergency to maintain the honor of their country's flag. A portion of the amount subscribed has been already expended for the benefit of the volunteers, and such other articles as, in the judgment of the committee, may be needed, will be furnished them on their departure for the seat of war.

NURSES. A large number of women have volunteered from various parts of the State to serve as nurses in the army. For their information we will state that orders have been issued giving the appointment of nurses and laundresses to the Hospital Surgeon, Dr. A. Garcelon, of Lewiston. Two women will be allowed to each company. They should be women of suitable age, vigorous constitutions and in good health; and it is desirable that they should be acquainted with the care of the sick. The wives of soldiers, if qualified, will have the preference, so far as it is practicable.

THE BATH TIMES. Our smart and spicy contemporary is now under the exclusive editorial and proprietary charge of J. T. Gilman, Esq., Mr. E. G. Roberts, his former business partner having retired. The Times is doing good service in the cause of the country, and we wish it success.

INDUSTRY IN AUGUSTA.

A correspondent of the Machina Republican, writing from this city, in an article directed to stimulate the enterprise of our Eastern friends in a similar establishment, makes honorable mention of several establishments in Augusta for the manufacture of lumber into various forms of utility, necessity and elegance. We copy a portion of his article:

"Freeman H. Barker, Esq., turns out annually a hundred thousand pairs of barrel heads, besides making large numbers of barrels, in which he ships the heading, to Philadelphia. Mr. Barker informed me he intended to increase his business by making a much larger quantity this year than ever before. The perfection to which they have brought machinery in this branch of industry, as very few others, enables them to make these heads with wonderful dispatch, turning out twelve hundred pairs with one machine in ten hours. This is something different from the slow and tedious process which could be accomplished by hand, more than a twentieth part as much in the same time.

This labor is not only done by machinery with much greater dispatch, but in greater perfection also. Barker does some twenty thousand dollars worth of business in this branch annually, furnishing paying employment to quite a number of men, from material that in many localities is worthless. The heading of the timber is first sawed in a single machine, to the thickness of one inch, after which it is planed on one side, then the pieces are sorted so that each head contains three, when they are ready for the turning machine, which finishes them already set up; they are then packed into the finished barrels ready for market.

The door, shaft, and blind machinery is carried quite extensively in this city. Messrs. Wyman & Williamson's establishment, which I was into to-day, is perhaps one of the best arranged ones in the State; they making daily one hundred doors, and such for one hundred windows, and also a great variety of other work.

Nearly all the lumber used in this establishment is brought from St. John, and quite a portion of their manufactured work finds a market in St. John. Barker does some twenty thousand dollars worth of business in this branch annually, furnishing paying employment to quite a number of men, from material that in many localities is worthless. The heading of the timber is first sawed in a single machine, to the thickness of one inch, after which it is planed on one side, then the pieces are sorted so that each head contains three, when they are ready for the turning machine, which finishes them already set up; they are then packed into the finished barrels ready for market.

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Record of the War.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

REINFORCEMENT OF PICKENS!

Union Demonstrations in Baltimore.

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR MORE TROOPS!

IMMENSE MILITARY PREPARATIONS!

Secession Movement in Maryland Legislature.

SOUTHERN TROOPS CONCENTRATING IN VIRGINIA.

Rebellion to be Everywhere Suppressed.

Gen. Butler occupies the Relay House!

HARPER'S FERRY TO BE RE-TAKEN.

MONTGOMERY, April 23. Congress met at noon to-day. Jeff Davis's message announced the ratification of the Constitution, and it only remains for the election of officers to administer the Government. A declaration of war made against this Government by the secessionists, Lincoln declared the convening of Congress necessary to devise means to replenish the treasury and for defense of the country.

He states that Commissioners have been sent to England, France, Prussia and Belgium, to ask for a recognition and to make treaties, and he recommends the appointment of other diplomatic agents; he says Virginia has unified her powers and satisfactory assurances that other Southern States will soon follow.

He says a people thus united and resolved cannot fail of final success. Our cause is just and holy, and we need unanimity in the face of our kind that we desire peace at any sacrifice save that of honor and independence; we seek no conquest, no aggrandizement, no concession from the secessionists. All we ask is to be left alone; that we will not attempt our subjugation or annexation. This we will and must resist to the last extremity.

The moment this pretension is abandoned, the sword will drop from our grasp, and we shall be ready to enter into treaties of amity and commerce mutually beneficial. So long as this pretension is maintained, with a firm reliance on the Divine Ruler of the universe, we shall persevere in the just cause, we will continue to struggle for our inherent right to freedom, independence and self-government.

New York, May 1. Steamer Atlantic, from Port Pines, arrived at New York, on the 13th, where all aboard were received. The steamer, which was taken on board, reached Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, on the 14th. The people of the Atlantic City West, were refused entry by a secessionist, named Tiff, and went to Havana, where coal and left on the morning of the 27th.

A letter from Fort Monroe states that there is no danger of the rebels coming to the fort, and sentinels are placed at every point connecting with the land. They are much annoyed with fugitive slaves seeking refuge there, but in consequence of the return of the batteries will be allowed to be entered within range.

HARRISBURG, April 20. A bill will be introduced, by Mr. Ball, in the House, empowering the Governor to call, beyond the forty regiments required by the act of Congress, such additional regiments, and in case of imminent peril to call out thirty; also the power to appoint Major General and two Brigadiers, and the men to be recruited and sent to the use of the Government, also the power to appoint Major General and two Brigadiers, and the men to be recruited and sent to the use of the Government.

BALTIMORE, May 1. Three spontaneous Union meetings were held last night, in different sections of the city, and well attended. Straight bat Union regiments were adopted in favor of maintaining the government, expressing approval of Gen. Scott, and a determination to maintain the honor of the flag of the Union. Badges are being made for the regiments, and the men to be recruited and sent to the use of the Government.

WASHINGTON, May 1. The Secretary of the Treasury has advertised for proposals, for nearly four hundred millions of June 1860.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 30. A gentleman from Mississippi said that in many parts of that State, an actual famine prevails. There is little money, and the people are suffering from want of food. The situation is very alarming, and the people are suffering from want of food.

NEW YORK, 3d. Southern camps will be formed at Lynchburg, Richmond, Norfolk, and near Alexandria. Roger A. Pryor has organized a regiment.

The Post says discussions in the rebel camp are going on, and the rebels are divided in opinion as to whether they should attack Washington, or whether they should wait until the summer.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 20. The State

